**Current Event Paper**

**PURPOSE**

Following the news in your city is one of the ways to learn why things work the way they do. Reading current events reports tells you who is responsible for the way the city spends money, what the history of a particular group of people is, why candidates win and lose elections, or how and why the school system works the way it does.

**REQUIREMENTS**

You will be required to write a 1-3 page paper (double-spaced, 12 pt font) about a current event that interests you. It is due Friday, May 5th in class. It will include:

* 1-2 paragraphs: includes title, author, and source of article, and summary of the article
* 1-2 paragraphs: Significance of the article
* 1-2 paragraphs: Your opinion of the issues in the article, or the author’s point of view
* Conclusion paragraph: why you found this article/topic interesting, were there any questions you had or things you wish it had talked about
* Link to article at end of paper or copy of article attached to paper

**RESOURCES**

Your article must come from The Washington Post, The Washington Examiner, or The Washington Times.

[www.washingtonpost.com](http://www.washingtonpost.com) – use the “Metro/Local” section

[www.washingtontimes.com](http://www.washingtontimes.com)

[www.washingtonexaminer.com](http://www.washingtonexaminer.com)

All news events must relate to Washington, D.C. as a city. Just because an article is in a Washington newspaper does not mean it is an article about Washington, D.C. There will be exceptions throughout the semester when large-scale news events come up, but for the most part these presentations are meant to help enrich the topics we cover on Washington, D.C.

**DC HISTORY CURRENT EVENTS PRESENTATION ASSESSMENT**

**Source**

*Title, author, source* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/5**

**Summary \_\_\_\_\_\_\_/20**

*What are the most essential elements of the article?*

*Is your summary clear and concise? Will the reader be able to understand the issue based on your summary?*

**Significance \_\_\_\_\_\_\_/15**

*Do you answer the question, “So what?” and explain* ***why*** *the article matters?*

*Does it relate to something we have discussed in class and/or to our lives as DC residents?*

**Opinion \_\_\_\_\_\_\_/10**

*What do you think about the article?*

*Does the author do a good/bad job of being impartial?*

*Does the author do a good/bad job of explaining/describing the topic/issue?*

**Total Points \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/50**

**Comments:**